

TIENDITAS ALLOTMENT #455

Carson National Forest
Camino Real Ranger District

ANNUAL OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS 2011

The annual meeting for the Tienditas Allotment was held on March 24, 2011, at Talpa, New Mexico. Attending were Joe and Juan Pablo Martinez for the Tienditas Allotment, and Melvin Herrera from the Forest Service.

These annual operating instructions are hereby made a part of the Term Grazing Permit for Juan P. Martinez on the Tienditas allotment.

The Camino Real Ranger District and the permittees discussed possible drought conditions, current snow depth and water content on the allotment and the outlook on predicted weather patterns for this coming grazing season. The Southwest Region is experiencing Moderate to Extreme drought, so any non-use this grazing season will be considered resource protection non-use. The mountainous Tienditas Allotment is less affected and is classified as being in moderate drought at the time of the meeting. Forest Service and Permittees remain optimistic about grazing close to permitted numbers this year.

Table 1 - Permittee, Permitted, Authorized number and kind

Permittee	Permitted Number/Kind	Authorized Number /Kind
Juan P. Martinez	12 cow/calf, 1 bull	10 cow/calf, 1 bull

Table 2 - Season of use

2. Permitted Number/Kind
06/15-09/30 (107 days)

Table 3- Pasture Roatation

3. Pasture Rotation				
Pasture	Estimated Dates	Estimated Days	Actual Use	Utilization %
East	06/15-07/25	40 days		
West	07/26-09/30	67 days		

Adaptive management will continue to be applied to the management of the Tienditas allotment which means that the season of use, numbers grazed and rotation schedules may be adjusted throughout the grazing season based on resource conditions. Range improvements, i.e. fences, will be maintained prior to moving to a different pasture.

4. Maintenance of Improvements

The entire cost of improvements maintenance is the responsibility of the permittee. Assigned allotment boundary fences, division fences, stock tanks, springs, cattle guards, and other range structural improvements must be maintained prior to the permittee going on to the allotment.

5. Other Items of Discussion

The 2010 grazing season went well on the allotment. Utilization on the allotment was within the guidelines established. Production last season was good and plants exhibited good vigor. Maintenance of range improvements was good. The two cattleguards on the allotment were full last year and caused cattle to be out of the correct pasture several times last year. Forest Service will look into cleaning the cattleguards early this season.

There is an illegal ATV trail created on the West pasture of which the adjacent private landowner has taken measures to curtail. The owner has placed no trespassing signs as well as installed barriers (boulders) on either side of the trail in her property. Permittees have had to fix the fence in order to keep the cattle on the allotment. This continues to be dealt with every season.

Grazing Instructions for 2011 are the same as in 2010. Salt away from roads and streams; use herding, salt, fences, and water sources to disperse cattle across the pastures to use the available forage; avoid overuse in key areas.

Utilization guidelines for 2011 are 40% of available annual forage in key use areas and 4 inches stubble height in riparian zones. Forage utilization will be measured in key forage areas.

The grazing fee this year is \$1.35 per head month for cattle.

Permittee and FS will look at the range together to determine range readiness and actual on-date.

The Forest Service discussed ongoing efforts with the Travel Management Rule. A decision is expected to be signed by the Forest Supervisor during this grazing season. If permittees need to use ATV's and motor vehicles for performing their required maintenance on fences and other range improvements, checking that gates are closed, checking on cattle health and location, and placing salt and mineral supplements; the Forest Service should be able to accommodate with a written letter issued to the permittees. Permittees are in favor of closing roads as long as they have access to check livestock and maintain range improvements.

The Forest Service is not requiring the cattle to be tagged, but advantages to having tags were discussed such as determining the ownership of livestock. Forest Service will count cattle prior to the agreed to entry date.

Forest Service would like at least 2 weeks notice prior to any proposed change in management (either season or numbers) so that they can go look at the allotment with the permittee.

